

25X1
OUTGOING MESSAGE

Approved For Release 2005/04/21 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100080039-8

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE COI ACP TOU TPR MPO DCI TRS

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CIA/OCI/WHIZ

740825

GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

1	4	7	10
2	5	8	11
3	6	9	12

25X1
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: ①

DATE: AUGUST 25, 1974

SUBJECT: LAOS -- SOUVANNA OFF TO FRANCE; KAY REPORTEDLY TO
BE RELEASED

25X1
REF :

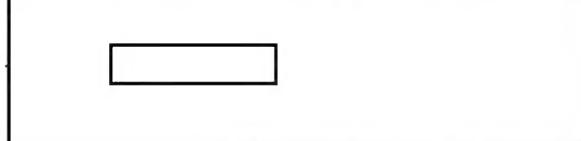


PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUma LEFT VIENTIANE EARLY TODAY
FOR SEVERAL MONTHS CONVALESCENCE IN FRANCE. HE IS TRAVELLING
ABOARD A SPECIAL MEDICALLY-EQUIPPED AND STAFFED CARAVELLE
AIRCRAFT PROVIDED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

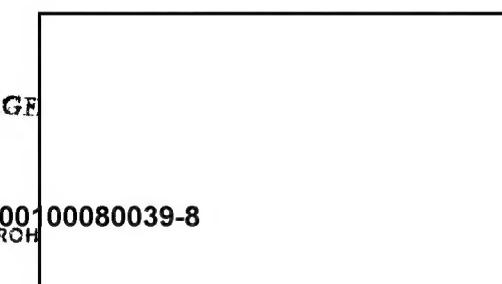
25X1

25X1
ON THE HOMFRONT - MEANWHILE, THE PATHET LAO HAVE STATED

25X1



AGE



DPMO DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

RELEASING OFFICER
CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS
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REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROH

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0
CLASSIFICATION

AGRS

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PUBLICLY THAT US CIVILIAN CONTRACT PILOT EMMET KAY WILL BE AMONG THE FIRST GROUP OF PRISONERS-OF-WAR TO BE RELEASED ON SEPTEMBER 12. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE IN VIENTIANE YESTERDAY BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE LAO COMMUNIST CONTINGENT ON THE COALITION GOVERNMENT'S JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT. HE REPORTEDLY TERMED KAY'S REPATRIATION A "HUMANITARIAN AND GOODWILL GESTURE." 4

LIKE THE PATHET LAO INITIATIVE ON PRISONER EXCHANGES ITSELF, THE REPORTED PLAN FOR KAY'S EARLY RELEASE COMES AS A SURPRISE. THE COMMUNISTS HAD CONSISTENTLY ARGUED THAT THEY DID NOT CONSIDER HIM A PRISONER-OF-WAR BECAUSE HIS CAPTURE LAST MAY OCCURRED AFTER THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. MOREOVER, THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE PATHET LAO MIGHT TRY TO LINK HIS EVENTUAL RELEASE TO POLITICAL CONCESSIONS BY WASHINGTON.

E-2 IMPDET.

25X1A9A

25X1

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

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